

the city and the people of Hobart will forever be remembered. To honor Linda, a reception will be held at the Avalon Manor in Hobart, IN, on Tuesday, November 27, 2007.

Linda Schmelter was born in Gary, Indiana, to Leonard and Ann Schmelter. A lifelong resident of Hobart, Linda attended Saint Bridget Elementary School and Hobart High School. Upon her graduation, prior to beginning her career as a public servant, Linda was employed by Hobart Federal Savings. Undoubtedly, this position helped Linda develop the communication and organizational skills that would be critical in her future roles as an elected official. Early on, Linda began her career in the public sector in Hobart as an employee of the Hobart Clerk-Treasurer's Office. Throughout the years, she also held positions with the Northern Indiana Public Service Company, NIPSCO, where she was stationed in both the Hobart and Gary locations.

In 1988, Linda was elected First District Councilperson, a position she held through 1995, when she was elected mayor. This began Linda's 12-year mayoral career. During that time, Linda's commitment and proven leadership skills led to many impressive advancements, many of which will have an immeasurable impact on the City and the people of Hobart for years to come. For all of Linda's leadership, hard work, and dedication to the people of Hobart, Linda was awarded the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash Award in 2005 from former Governor Joseph E. Kernan.

Although Linda's responsibilities in her capacity as mayor have occupied a large amount of her time, Linda has always been active in various organizations throughout the years, including: the Kiwanis, the Hobart Industrial Economic Development Corporation, HIEDC, the Hobart Chamber of Commerce, the Hobart YMCA, and the School City Educational Foundation. She has served on several boards, including: the Workforce Development Board, the Crisis Center Board, and the Saint Mary Medical Board. A dedicated and lifelong Democrat, Linda has also served as Vice-Chair of the Hobart and Lake County Democratic Precinct Organizations and as Treasurer of the Indiana State Democratic Organization.

While Linda has passionately served the people of Hobart with unwavering dedication for many years, her commitment to her community is surpassed only by her love for her family. A loving wife, mother, and grandmother, Linda and her husband, George, have been married for over 26 years. They have one son, Michael, and two teenage grandchildren, whom they cherish and adore.

Madam Speaker, Linda Buzinec has selflessly given her time and efforts to the people of Hobart, Indiana, throughout her years of service. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending her for her years of service and dedication, and I ask that you join me in wishing her the best of health and happiness in the years to come.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH SCOTT NICHOLLS FOR LEADING THE GIRL'S SOCCER TEAM TO PLACE SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Coach Scott Nicholls showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Coach Scott Nicholls was a leader and mentor for the team; and

Whereas, Coach Scott Nicholls has been a role model for sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Coach Scott Nicholls for leading the girl's soccer team to place second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and leadership he has demonstrated during the 2007 soccer season.

HONORING THE PUTNAM COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the members of the Putnam County Volunteer Fire Department for their selfless dedication and bravery in protecting our families, day and night.

The Putnam County Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1977. The department started with a Ford van and two 55-gallon drums of water, a water pump and garden hose and approximately four people.

Without volunteer fire halls, like Putnam County, many places in the Sixth District would lack effective fire protection. In the state of Tennessee, over 70 percent of fire service is provided by volunteers. Among these volunteers, almost 75 percent work other daily jobs.

Ensuring our families' safety is not without risk. Sadly, an average of two firefighters die each year in Tennessee in the line of duty. In 2005, the Tennessee Fire Services and Code Academy dedicated a memorial on their main campus in Bell Buckle to honor those Tennessee firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

For their willingness to serve, the following members of the Putnam County Volunteer Fire Department deserve recognition: Keith Barber, John Barrow, Tony Beaty, Gene Billbrey, Daryl Blair, Jason Bohannon, Devin Brown, Adam Brown, Roger Brown, Tom Brown, Brian Burgess, Tim Burton, Marshall Cox, Carol Dempsay, Josh Dempsay, Charles Doss, Chris Edgerton, Derrick Edwards, Brent Emery, Timothy Gann, Daniel Harris, Jeff Hicks, Daniel Hodge, Shawn Hotsiniller, Grant Hubbel, Darrell Jennings, Jason Jennings, Jason Jones, Mike Keith, Jim Knight, Richard Lynch, Lonette Marcus, Jeff Matheney, Tom McClatchie, Marvin Mont-

gomery, Jeremy Morris, John Mullin, Jeremy Nash, Michael Norris, David Phy, Joel Qualls, Danny Randolph, Fred Ray, Ray Rowland, Jason Scott, John Sisco, Brandon Smith, Daniel Snyder, Tony Stamps, Troy Tayse, Tony Waters, Matt White, Tony Williams, Josh Womack, Shandrea Womack and Zack Womack.

TEXAS CHEERLEADERS RAISE MONEY FOR U.S. TROOPS COMING HOME FROM IRAQ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, a strong sense of patriotism is sweeping through the second district of Texas between to local football teams and spreading on to the gridiron. It is a short story, but it says volumes about the generosity and spirit of the people of Texas.

The varsity cheerleaders at Klein Forest High School and Westfield High School challenged each other to see who could raise the most money for troops returning home from Iraq.

The challenge would last two weeks and the money would be presented to members of the Family Readiness Group of Company B, 15th Brigade Troops Battalion, 15th Sustainment Brigade during a homecoming football game.

The cheerleaders collected donations during and after school for the next two weeks. They asked local businesses to help support the troops returning home to Texas. During the homecoming football game, they passed around buckets throughout the stadium for additional donations from the fans.

The two cheerleading squads raised close to \$4,000.00 for the Family Readiness Group to use in welcoming home the troops this holiday season.

I commend both squads for being generous and patriotic Americans. Thanks for showing the troops that we support and appreciate the sacrifices they are making for us, our families, and our future.

And that's just the way it is.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING HILLARY BROWN FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Hillary Brown competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Hillary Brown showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Hillary Brown has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Hillary Brown was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Hillary Brown always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional